

Human Services Advisory Committee Minutes of April 30, 2014 Meeting

Present: Sara Anderson (Advocates for Children); Ethel Mantzaris (YSB), chair; Bev Korba (Sr. Ctr. Assn.); Victoria Nimirowski (WAIM); Joan Terry (Comm. on Aging)

Absent: Ron Baker (Member at Large); Fred Goetz (ADA); Dexter Eddy (Housing Authority); Lorraine Kenowski (Member at Large);

Staff: Pat Schneider, Director of Human Services

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

The minutes of the March 2014 meeting were approved as written.

Pat handed out copies of the Committee's meeting dates so we will not have future confusion over which Wednesday is our correct meeting date. Pat updated the Committee on a number of issues. An outreach social worker has been hired: Carolyn McAuliffe has experience with outreach and is Choices trained. The senior center program coordinator vacancy has attracted over 100 applications. Kathleen Krider has resigned as Early Childhood Services Coordinator but will help with transition.

Various grants are being applied for with some updating necessary. It is hoped there will be some funds in the new transportation budget to pay a driver for the town van allowing greater use.

Youth services had an excellent volunteer recognition to thank mentors from UConn. Next year there will be two interns from Eastern CT University. The funds for the Challenge program have been cut in half and have been placed in the recreation department's budget.

The fee waiver ordinance has been modified in an effort to keep expenditures under better control.

Joan shared a memo to the Council Committee on Committees that was written by the previous director last March. It contained the results of discussions our committee had during a strategic planning session. Pat will follow up with the memo to see if it was ever sent to the Council's Committee on Committees.

Transportation problems with the Windham Regional Transit District buses were briefly discussed. Some of our committee members have heard that people with disabilities have been denied access to the buses. The committee feels this is an area where we might be able to affect a positive change.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,